

REMARKS

Applicant notes that in paragraph 2 of the Office Action the Examiner stated that the present patent application claims priority based on provisional patent application number 60/105,287 filed on October 22, 1997. Please note that the correct filing date of provisional patent application number 60/105,287 is October 22, 1998.

I. Status of the Application

Claims 1-12 were pending in the application. In the Office Action, the Examiner: (1) stated that the information disclosure statement filed December 18, 2001 fails to comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98, and MPEP § 609; (2) required correction of Figures 1, 2A, 2C and 3; (3) objected to Claim 12, requesting the elements "RPC" and "ISAPI" be spelled out; (4) rejected Claims 1, 3, 8, and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Barry et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,615,258); (5) rejected Claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barry et al in view of Mein et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,457,066) (6) rejected Claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barry et al. in view of Mein et al. and further in view of Bayeh et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,012,098); and (7) objected to dependent Claims 2, 4, 5, and 10-12, but noted the Claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all limitations of the rejected base claim and any intervening claims.

In this response, the Applicants respectfully: (1) provide a revised Information Disclosure Statement; (2) provide replacement sheets for Figures 1, 2A, 2C, and 3; (3) amend Claims 2, 4, 5, 10, 11, and 12, and cancel Claims 1, 8, and 9 to place Claims 2, 4, 10, 11, and 12 in independent form, and to address the use of abbreviations in Claim 12 objected to by the

Examiner; and (4) amend Claim 3 to revise the dependency of this Claim from the now cancelled Claim 1 to amended Claim 2.

II. Information Disclosure Statement

The Examiner objected to the Information Disclosure Statement filed on December 18, 2001, as the submitted non-patent documents under indices BQ, BR, BS, CP, and CQ do not disclose publication dates. In response, Applicants submit herewith an Information Disclosure Statement including the available information required by 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

III. Revised Drawings

The Examiner required correction of Figures 1, 2A, 2C, and 3. Specifically, the Examiner stated that the elements of these figures should be designated by a legend such as – customer computer-, -Application server computer-, and –Back-Office database server computer-, etc. Attached hereto are replacement sheets for Figures 1, 2A, 2C, and 3 in compliance with Examiner's request.

IV. No New Matter Is Introduced by Way of Amendment

Claims 2, 4, 5, 10, 11, and 12 have been amended to include all limitations of the base claim from which they depend and any intervening claims. Claim 3 has been amended to depend from Claim 2, as amended, rather than the cancelled Claim 1. Therefore, no new matter has been introduced by way of amendment.

V. Claims Objected to In Office Action Rewritten in Independent Form

The Examiner objected to Claims 2, 4, 5, 10, 11, and 12, and stated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to incorporate all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims from which they depend. Also, the Examiner objected to the abbreviations of Claim 12. Accordingly, Claims 2, 4, 5, 10, 11, and 12 have been rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims from which they depend, and Claim 12 has been amended to spell out the previously used abbreviations. Further, claims 1, 8, and 9 have been cancelled, and Claim 3 has been amended to depend from the amended Claim 2 rather than the cancelled Claim 1. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 2, 4, 5, 10, 11, and 12 as amended, are patentable, and the objection of Claims 2, 4, 5, 10, 11, and 12 is overcome. Also, because Claims 3, 6, and 7 depend from and include all the limitations of Claim 2, as amended, it is respectfully submitted that dependent Claims 3, 6, and 7 are patentable, and the rejection of Claims 3, 6, and 7 is overcome.

ADDITIONAL INDEPENDENT CLAIMS

As filed, the application contained two (2) independent claims, namely, Claims 1 and 8, and payment was made for three (3) independent claims. As amended, the application contains six (6) independent claims. Thus, for the three (3) additional independent claims beyond those paid for with the original application, Applicants submit herewith a check in the amount of \$132.00 pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.16(b).

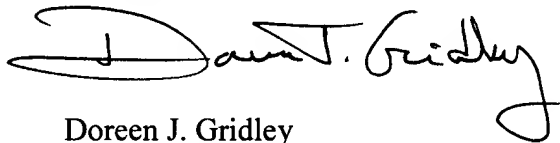
CONCLUSION

For all the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the Applicants have made a patentable contribution to the art and that this response places the above-identified application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

In the event the Applicants have inadvertently overlooked the need for an extension of time or payment of an additional fee, the Applicants conditionally petition therefor, and authorize any fee deficiency to be charged to deposit account 09-0007.

Sincerely,

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Date: 11/12/04

DJG/pgf

Enclosures: Information Disclosure Statement
Replacement Figures 1, 2A, 2C, and 3
Check in the Amount of \$132.00
Return postcard
cc: Ms. Katherine Kinder
Mr. Jerry Staddon